



Scout Camp Summer 2020

SUMMER CAMP IN THE TIME OF COVID-19



The Adventure Begins...

Summer 2020 has the potential to be
the greatest in camping history!



Our Plan for Summer 2020

Our operational and program planning for Summer 2020 is based on guidance from:

The National BSA Outdoor Adventures Department

The CDC “Guidance for Youth and Summer Camps”

The American Camping Association’s “Field Guide for Camps”

Consultation with the Skagit County Public Health Department

Collaboration with the Mount Baker Council Enterprise Risk Management Committee and the Safe Start to Summer Camps Committee



Please be aware

As new information and guidance is ever evolving, our planning is growing to meet diverse needs.

Please be aware that this document represents our best understanding as of June 5, 2020.

As updates are made, we will communicate those with you as quickly as possible.



Guiding Principles for Camp Operation

Acknowledge that summer camp will be different.

The traditional Camp experience that Scouts have found at Fire Mountain since 1972 is not possible for us to offer in the current circumstances.

However, we can still offer an engaging and exciting outdoor experience while safeguarding the health and safety of our Scouts and leaders.



Guiding Principles for Camp Operation

Camp will serve the mission of the BSA.

The purpose of Scout Camp is to support the year-round operation of the Troop, and to serve the mission of the Boy Scouts of America.

The Mission of the Boy Scouts of America is to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law.

While camp may be different than it has been, it can still be exactly what our Scouts need.



Guiding Principles for Camp Operation

Camp will be operated with health and safety as the absolute highest priority.

Every decision we make in our planning and operation of summer camp will be made with consideration of the well-being of our Scouts, Leaders, and Staff as the utmost priority.

If we cannot provide a program in a safe manner, we will not offer it.



So tell me...

What steps will be taken to make summer camp as safe and healthy as possible?



Three-Step approach for mitigation

1. Pre-Screening
2. Sanitation/Cleanliness
3. Physical Distancing



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Step 1 – Pre-Screening

Medical Pre-Screening and Check-in is now a 2-Phase process

Phase 1: Medical Forms and Unit Pre-Screening prior to camp

Phase 2: Camp Check-in Procedures and Screening



Step 1 – Pre-Screening

An annually completed medical form is an important part of our layered approach to maintaining the health of everyone at camp.

Understanding the difficulty of completing Part C in the current climate, National BSA has made the following one-time accommodations:

- An existing Part C that was signed on or after February 1, 2019 is valid – for summer camp purposes only – until August 31, 2020. It must be accompanied by a Part A/B completed within 2 weeks of the start of camp.
- If a Scout or Leader has no existing Part C, any physical exam form (sports, school, well-child) completed on or after February 1, 2019 can be submitted in lieu of a Part C – for Summer Camp purposes only – until August 31, 2020. It must be accompanied by a Part A/B completed within 2 weeks of the start of camp.



Step 1 – Pre-Screening

Participants will arrive at camp and complete check-in – as a Troop – with current medical forms and any necessary permission slips in hand.

- 1. All units will be asked to take and record all participant's temperatures prior to departing for camp and bring the record with them.*
- 2. All units will verify that participants have not had a fever or symptoms connected to COVID-19, or had prolonged exposure to someone who has, within 14 days of departure for camp.*
- 3. Anyone who does not pass these screening criteria before departing for camp should not come and will receive a full refund.*



Step 1 – Pre-Screening

On arrival at camp, all participants will remain in the vehicle they travelled in and wait for the assisting qualified staff to complete their health checks.

- 1. At start of screening, participants will be allowed to exit vehicles and sit in shaded area. Qualified camp staff will complete medical re-checks with each Scout.*
- 2. After cool-down time, staff will take the temperature of every participant. Any participant with a temperature reading of 100.4° Fahrenheit or higher will not be able to remain in camp, and will receive a full refund.*
- 3. All members of the unit who were exposed with the individual in the same vehicle while travelling will also be asked to return home and given a full refund.*



Step 1 – Pre-Screening

A few additional notes on the check-in process when you arrive:

Check-in times will be assigned to stagger arrivals in the parking lot to prevent crowding. Please do your best to arrive at your assigned time.

Please remember to have your participants remain in the vehicle they travelled in once they arrive at camp until directed otherwise by camp staff. Be sure all participants have their medical forms in hand.

Once all troop members are screened, you can unload and begin your entry to camp. We will implement this process as quickly as possible, but it may take some time. We appreciate your patience.



Step 1 – Pre-Screening

Swim checks will be completed on Sunday as part of the welcome to camp. You can expect:

- *Campsites will be scheduled for swim checks as they arrive, avoiding crowding at the Beach.*
- *Depending on speed, swim checks may continue to be assigned after dinner time.*
- *If you have the resources, your Troop may complete pre-camp swim checks. The form for this process will be released soon.*



Three-Step approach for mitigation

1. Pre-Screening
2. Sanitation/Cleanliness
3. Physical Distancing



Step 2 – Sanitation/Cleanliness

New Handwashing stations are being installed in key areas of camp:

- Pathfinders Area
- Archery Range
- The Beach
- Sea-Dog Marina
- Rifle Range



Step 2 – Sanitation/Cleanliness

New Staff & Equipment

- *Camp will have designated sanitation staff for cleaning public spaces, showers, and restrooms multiple times daily.*
- *New equipment and chemicals have been purchased that meet the requirements for sanitation and disinfection.*



Step 2 – Sanitation/Cleanliness

Updated Cleaning Policies/Procedures

- *Participants will no longer clean showerhouses*
 - *Troops will be expected to clean KYBOs and Handwashing stations in their own campsites*
- *Troop-based food preparation is done in the campsite*
- *All program equipment will be cleaned and sanitized between groups*
- *All campsite facilities will be fully sanitized weekly between sessions of camp.*



Step 2 – Sanitation/Cleanliness

A critically important component of our cleaning policy is the sanitization of campsites between groups.

To allow sufficient time for this process to be completed, our Weekly Schedule will now end on Friday afternoon.

- If your Troop will be travelling more than 4-hours to arrive home, we will be contacting you to discuss exceptions to this change.*



Three-Step approach for mitigation

1. Pre-Screening
2. Sanitation/Cleanliness
3. Physical Distancing



Step 3 – Physical Distancing

Each campsite will form a “cohort” at camp that will engage with the program as a self-contained unit.

Different cohorts should never directly interact with each other. A cohort will essentially experience its own private summer camp.

Cohorts will travel together to program areas, interacting with camp staff at appropriate physical distance.

This system is based on guidance on the CDC “Concentric Circles” model for summer camp operations, given to the BSA Outdoor Programs Office on May 7th, 2020.



Step 3 – Physical Distancing

While we love our dining hall, seating 300-400 people for 3 meals a day is not something we can safely manage. Instead, we are designing a menu that will include:

- *Breakfasts and Dinners that are delivered in the campsite. Meals will be a mix of pre-cooked and prepare-in-site options.*
- *Lunches will be prepared as “grab-and-go” meals, with multiple distribution points for Troops to pick up and carry with them.*

The full menu, with recommended gear for in-site meal preparation, will be shared as soon as it is finalized.



Step 3 – Physical Distancing

Daily activities will be presented as a wide selection of “Quests” – skill-based activities for the full Troop to engage with and enjoy.

A full list of quests will be shared in the full Program Guide, to be published shortly.

Troops will submit a list of their preferences for Quests, which the camp staff will use to build a custom schedule for your experience.

Troops will receive their Quest schedule when they arrive at camp on Sunday, and will have the opportunity to make any desired changes on Sunday night.



Step 3 – Physical Distancing

Quests will include familiar programs, as well as a variety of activities that go beyond the traditional camp elements to offer new experiences to Scouts.

Swimming, Archery, and Handicrafts will all be found as Quest opportunities.

Scouts will also be able to explore activities like: Nature Journaling, Advanced Fire-Building, and an Action Slingshot Range!



Step 3 – Physical Distancing

Quest Example: Search & Rescue Practical

A better name for this Quest might be “Advanced Hide & Seek.” Learn how to make a search grid and work as a team to find a lost hiker.

Enter a dense Pacific Northwest forest to seek among the underbrush, mud, and nature.

Participants serve as both hidiers and seekers. Will the search team find the lost hiker in time?



Step 3 – Physical Distancing

Quest Example: Super-Pioneering!

You know those pictures of giant structures of rope and spars that you always wanted to try out? This is your chance!

Spend focused time building a truly awe-inspiring pioneering project.

Merry Go-Rounds, Signaling Towers, Monkey Bridges, and more.

Your only limit is your imagination!



Step 3 – Physical Distancing

Every Troop can expect to have an opportunity to visit high demand areas:

- The Beach – Swimming
- The Sea-Dog Marina – Boating
- The Archery Range
- The Rifle Range

Depending on demand, multiple visits may also be possible.



Step 3 – Physical Distancing

One of our most popular program elements is the chance to ride the **Fire Mountain Zipline**.

We are pleased to announce that our current planning will support the chance for all Scouts and Leaders to ride the Zipline.

- Specific procedures to support physical distancing, and sanitize equipment between use, have been developed and are awaiting approval.

The Zipline will fill an evening activity slot, outside of the new Quest schedule.



Step 3 – Physical Distancing

Campwide Activities

Daily flag ceremonies will be held in each campsite, led by individual cohorts.

Campfire Programs will be offered twice during the week:

- *Each cohort will host our staff's travelling Campfire in their campsite as an evening activity slot.*
- *Fire Mountain will present a Virtual Family Campfire on Friday night, including recorded skits and songs from each cohort.*

Ongoing challenges throughout the week will offer the chance for inter-Troop competition while maintaining physical distance.



Change is Good!

We know that this is different, and different can be exciting!

Your Troop has a chance to build its own adventure at camp this summer.

The leadership opportunities for your youth leaders are greater than ever before.

When your Troop goes home at the end of the week, it will be stronger for the rest of the year because of your experience at camp.



In Conclusion:

Summer Camp at Fire Mountain in 2020 is a new and exciting opportunity for Outdoor Adventure.

Our plans follow State and County guidance which make them very fluid. Plans are specifically built on sufficient progress through the Washington Safe Start plan, and are subject to change if that process is stalled.

Should plans change, we will communicate that information as soon as possible.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us:

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